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September 5, 2003

Mr. Robert J. DiPrimio
Valencia Water Company
24631 Avenue Rockefeller
Valencia, CA 91385-5904

Dear Mr. DiPrimio:

GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIED DISCHARGES TO GROUNDWATER IN SANTA CLARA AND LOS ANGELES RIVER BASINS – VALENCIA WATER COMPANY REPLACEMENT WELL U6, PM20838 NEAR SOLEDAD CANYON ROAD AND BENTGRASS WAY, SANTA CLARITA, CALIFORNIA (FILE NO. 03-100, CI-8617)

We have completed our review of your application for discharge of water produced during the installation and development of water supply well U6 onto approximately 33 acres of vacant land near the intersection of Soledad Canyon Road and Bentgrass Way.

Valencia Water Company (hereinafter Discharger) has several water wells that are over 50 years old and in need of replacement. The Discharger plans to replace these wells over the next several years. Well U3, one of the wells needing replacement, is located in the future alignment of a new City road. The Discharger proposes to drill a water supply well (Well U6) on the vacant land PM20838, near the intersection of Soledad Canyon Road and Bentgrass Way in the City of Santa Clarita, California (Figure 1) to replace Well U3.

Discharge activities associated with installing and developing Well U6 into the Alluvial Aquifer will last approximately 8 to 12 days depending on how quickly the well can be developed. Discharge will be intermittent in nature ranging from a low of 250,000 gallons on one day to a high of 1,500,000 gallons on the last day. Total discharges will not exceed 7 million gallons of water. Water from the development of Well U6 will be collected in a series of 20,000-gallon Baker Tanks (maximum of 3 tanks) and water quality samples will be obtained from the last tank. A 12-inch temporary pipe capable of handling flows of 2,500 gallons per minute will convey the discharge water to the southeasterly part of the property. Three points of disbursement will distribute the water to the discharge area where it will spread over the property by gravity in a northwesterly direction as it percolates into the ground. Diffusers will be installed at the end of each disbursement point to break the head of the flow. As a precaution, dirt berms will be constructed at the northwesterly portion of the discharge area to prevent water from leaving the discharge area (Figure 2). Discharge and percolation of the water will be monitored during the first days of low discharge amounts to confirm that the discharge plan is working. Modifications such as addition or relocation of points of disbursement will be made if necessary.

The property where the water will be discharged to is owned by Newhall Land and Farming Company. The Discharger obtained permission for discharge from the property owner in March

of 2003. The property is graded, nearly flat and is currently vacant. However, the property had been used for agricultural purposes in the past. An open drainage ditch crosses the property in an east to west direction and drains into the Santa Clara River. The Discharger plans to construct dirt berms to prevent discharge water from entering the drainage ditch and no discharge water will be allowed to enter the Santa Clara River.

The site is located within the Eastern Santa Clara Basin in the Santa Clara – Mint Canyon Sub-Basin overlaying the local alluvial aquifer system. The Alluvial Aquifer system is generally contained within the Santa Clara River Valley. It has an overall storage capacity of approximately 240,000 acre-feet and an operational yield of 30,000 to 40,000 acre-feet depending on whether or not it is a wet or dry year. The estimated hydraulic gradient of groundwater in the Alluvial Aquifer in the vicinity of Well U6 varies from 0.001 to 0.005 feet per foot towards the west and the estimated percolation rate of the alluvial sediments in the vicinity of Well U6 was determined to range from 2 feet to 20 feet per day. The nearest existing operating well in the Alluvial Aquifer is Valencia Water Company Well U4 located approximately 1,600 feet east of proposed Well U6. Based on the water level measurements recorded on July 3, 2003, the depth to groundwater in nearby Well U4 was approximately 52 feet below ground surface.

The groundwater quality in this area is poor with high concentrations of sulfate and total dissolved solids (TDS). The *Water Quality Control Plan for Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties* (Basin Plan) adopted on June 13, 1994 established limits for these constituents for this area. The water quality objectives are 800 mg/L for TDS, 150 mg/L for sulfate, 150 mg/L for chloride, and 1.0 mg/L for boron. Groundwater samples collected on February 20, 2002 from water supply wells U3 and U4 indicated sulfate levels at 267 mg/L and 479 mg/L, respectively, and TDS levels are 835 mg/L and 1,172 mg/L, respectively. Both the sulfate and TDS are at levels above the Basin Plan water quality objectives.

Waste Discharge Requirements (E.6.) of Board Order No 93-010 states: "Wastewater discharged to groundwater shall maintain the existing water quality, even if that existing water quality exceeds established objectives. A determination shall be made by the Executive Officer as to the applicability of water quality standards with regard to the "Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Water in California", with each discharge, on a site – specific basis". The proposal is for groundwater to be utilized in the area from which it was extracted from the same aquifer. It will not be a threat to water quality nor will it threaten beneficial uses of the local groundwater. Subsequently, the Executive Officer has determined that the objectives for sulfates and TDS per Attachments "A" and "B" of Order No. 93-010 are not applicable to this proposed discharge.

Regional Board staff have reviewed the information provided and determined that the proposed discharge qualifies for enrollment under Order No. 93-010, *"General Waste Discharge Requirements for Specified Discharges to Groundwater in Santa Clara River and Los Angeles River Basins"* adopted by this Board on January 25, 1993.

Enclosed are your Waste Discharge Requirements consisting of Regional Board Order No. 93-010, Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-8617 and Standard Provisions Applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program requires you to implement the monitoring program on the date you receive this Order. All monitoring reports should be sent to the Regional Board, ATTN: Information Technology Unit. When submitting monitoring and technical reports to the Regional Board per these requirements, please include a reference to "Compliance File No. CI-8617", which will assure that the reports are directed to the appropriate file and staff. Also, please do not combine other reports with your monitoring reports. Submit each type of report as a separate document.

In order to avoid future annual fees, please notify this Regional Board when the project has been completed and the permit is no longer needed.

We are sending a copy of Board Order No. 93-010 only to the applicant. A copy of the Order will be furnished to anyone who requests it.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Mr. David Koo at (213) 620-6155.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Dickerson
Executive Officer

Enclosures:
1. Board Order No. 93-010
2. Monitoring and Reporting Program No. CI-8617
3. Standard Provisions applicable to Waste Discharge Requirements (addressee only)

cc: Mr. Robert Sams, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board
Mr. Michael Lauffer, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board
Mr. Ross Pistone, Newhall Land
Mr. Greg Milleman, Valencia Water Company